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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. 98006/17UTL 09/699,805 10/30/2000 William Thornton 8722 23873 7590 09/08/2003 ROBERT W STROZIER, P.L.L.C **EXAMINER** PO BOX 429 SOTOMAYOR, JOHN BELLAIRE, TX 77402-0429 ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER 3714 DATE MAILED: 09/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20231 WWW.USDIO.gov

Paper No.

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

The amendment document filed on \$\int 25-03\$ is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on June 30, 2003 (see 68 Fed. Reg. 38611, Jun. 30, 2003). In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following omission(s) or provision is required. Only the section (1.121(h)) of the amendment document containing the omission or non-compliant provision must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted.

THE F	OLLOW	TING CHECKED (X) ELEMENTS(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:
		endments to the specification:
		A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
		B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
		C. Other
	2. Abs	tract:
		A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
		B. Other
	_3. Am	endments to the drawings:
		endments to the claims:
	4. Am	endments to the claims: A. A complete listing of <u>all</u> of the claims is not present.
	4. Am	endments to the claims:
	4. Am	A. A complete listing of <u>all</u> of the claims is not present. B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all claims (incl. withdrawn claims) C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP Sec. 714 and the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/officeflyer.pdf.

If the non-compliant amendment is a **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**, applicant is given ONE MONTH from the mail date of this letter to supply the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121. Failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.121 will result in non-entry of the preliminary amendment and examination on the merits will commence without consideration of the proposed changes in the preliminary amendment(s). This notice is not an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, and this **ONE MONTH time limit is not extendable**.

If the non-compliant amendment is a reply to a NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION, and since the amendment appears to be a bona fide attempt to be a reply (37 CFR 1.135(c)), applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE MONTH from the mailing of this notice within which to re-submit the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD ARE AVAILABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

If the amendment is a reply to a **FINAL REJECTION**, this form may be an attachment to an Advisory Action. <u>The period for response to a final rejection continues to run from the date set in the final rejection</u>, and is not affected by the non-compliant status of the amendment.

Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE)